

THE LAND.

(From the Sydney Mail, June 25.)

The Wines Juries commenced their labours on Monday last, according to arrangement, and are still so engaged. They meet quietly for an hour, or an hour and a half, each day, and will publish no awards till the close of the proceedings. At the comfortable and judicious pace which they have chosen to go, the judging will occupy about ten days. It is well that so much time can be given to so delicate a duty, and that a department of so much importance may be satisfactorily dispensed with before the pressure of the Exhibition comes fully upon the Society. Since the Society's ground at Parramatta required the expenditure of a considerable sum of money in rooting and stumping, and draining, and the season has been unfavourable to all out-door work, it has been determined not to interfere with it this year, but to prepare it for the next show. The Society has found much difficulty in meeting with a plot of land suitable for the testing of implements. At length a very central piece has been offered by the Trustees of the new Victoria Park. That portion of the Park which these gentlemen are to be put at the disposal of the Society. A fence will be thrown round it, and the plough, harrow, roll, and seed-drill testing will be conducted there. For reaping and mowing machines some other place must be found.

The co-operation of Melbourne in the affairs of the Exhibition is now officially assured. The Government there has appointed a gentleman to work up for the event in Victoria, and to correspond with the Office here.

This is not exactly a Potato producing country, although a large area of land is under this crop. The growers, though they be few in number, will be glad of the following, which we take from a Victorian paper.

Every increase in the size of the set, from one ounce up to eight ounces, produces an increase in the crop much greater than the additional weight of the set planted. The net profit over and above the extra weight of the set planted, and the extra weight of the set planted, is as follows:—One ounce, 100 lbs. of potatoes; two ounces, 150 lbs.; three ounces, 200 lbs.; four ounces, 250 lbs.; five ounces, 300 lbs.; six ounces, 350 lbs.; seven ounces, 400 lbs.; eight ounces, 450 lbs. The net profit over and above the extra weight of the set planted, is as follows:—One ounce, 100 lbs. of potatoes; two ounces, 150 lbs.; three ounces, 200 lbs.; four ounces, 250 lbs.; five ounces, 300 lbs.; six ounces, 350 lbs.; seven ounces, 400 lbs.; eight ounces, 450 lbs.

Very interesting are the particulars given by Mr. Glaisher, the celebrated meteorologist, concerning the TEMPERATURE and HUMIDITY of the AIR at the heights of 22 and 50 feet above the ground, in comparison with the temperature and humidity registered at a height of 4 feet from the surface. It was a general belief that a decline of 1 degree took place for every increase of 300 feet of elevation, but Mr. Glaisher's experiments show that this is not correct. He shows, by means of observations made in his "captive balloon," that the temperature near the earth varies greatly, and is different at different parts of the day. "On two different days," says the observer, "I ascended nine times on each day; there was a decrease of temperature with increase of elevation at every ascent, being less clear as the day advanced towards sunset." Mr. Glaisher found that very little variation in temperature to a height of 600 feet was observed from mid-day to 4 or 5 o'clock in summer. This finding determined him to make some systematic experiments. He therefore fixed thermometers, respectively at the heights of 4, 22, and 50 feet from the ground, and arranged for observing them at the same hours. The result of these observations, extending over some six weeks, from the end of June to the beginning of August, are tabulated. The general conclusions are as follow:—

"That during the period of observation in the daytime the temperature of 4 feet was higher than at 22 feet, while at the same time the temperature at 22 feet was higher than at 50 feet. During the mid-day hours it sometimes happened that the temperature at 4 feet was from 4 to 6 degrees higher than at 22 feet above the surface, while at night the heat at the surface was sometimes 2 to 3 degrees colder than at the higher elevation."

"When the temperature at 4 and 50 feet above the earth was compared in the same manner similar results were noted. During the day hours the temperature at 4 feet was from 1 to 2 degrees higher than at 50 feet; while at night it was sometimes 3 to 4 degrees colder at the lower elevation than at the higher. For the 12 hours from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m., the temperature at 4 feet high was higher than at the higher elevation, and during the remaining 12 hours it was lower. The temperature near the earth is often lower at night in frosty weather is too often proved by the death of the lower branches of shrubs and trees while the upper are unscathed. It is, therefore, reasonable to have these circumstances worked out, and hence we learn, with great satisfaction, that it is intended to extend these observations throughout a whole year, and that the data for a complete record of the only of diurnal but of seasonal changes. Fruit trees, once these data were established, could be the height of their growth so that a tender season should not be lost, and that the degree of the surface; and numerous expedients would suggest themselves to every practical gardener in availing himself of such information."

"As to the degree of moisture in the air, it appears from Mr. Glaisher's tables that during the day the degree of humidity is greater at the higher than at the lower elevation, that from 6 to 9 p.m. there is a slight difference, and that at night the degree of humidity is greater at the lower elevation."

FRANCE is waking up to the necessity of making a determined effort to turn her land to foreign corn-growers. Her agricultural resources are immense, and it has only been the delusive aspiration for military glory that has prevented her from drawing more largely upon them. The subjoined paragraph, from the letter of a correspondent to one of the South Australian journals, will show in what direction the French are moving:—

Next year Paris is to have a monster Agricultural International Exhibition; and in July of the present year rather an extensive trial of reaping machines in the Department of the Seine will take place under the auspices of the Society of Agriculture. Prizes to the value of 5000 francs will be awarded, and the competition is open to the world. The German implement makers are resolved to dispute the field with England and America. The society is establishing an agricultural club, where visitors to next year's exhibition can be suitably received. The subscription is fixed at 100 francs yearly. The Horticultural Society is to give a series of lectures for the benefit of the French farmers' kitchen gardens; and we are to have quite a monster exhibition on the part of the market gardeners of Paris—one of the most remarkable sources of the city's food supplies.

The same writer furnishes some most interesting particulars likewise respecting some other measures which are being adopted to promote an intelligent interest in agricultural affairs. Perseverance in such a course for a few years will

strengthen France, as surely as a course of warfare has weakened her.

The most notable feature presented in the national budget is a reduction of the annual contingent of the army by 10,000 men—50,000 men in all at the disposal of productive labour. Bear in mind that the French army is recruited from young and unmarried men, and that the reduction of the contingent of the army by 10,000 men means a reduction of the contingent of the army by 10,000 men. The number of pupils at these establishments is 500, each of whom costs the State a minimum of 400 francs per annum. The credit demanded for agricultural instruction and regional exhibitions is nearly 30 millions of francs. The "Farm Schools," numbering 1301 pupils, receive for the maintenance of each pupil 270 francs or nearly double that allowed in previous years. The pupils are not only assisted in an outfit, but receive at the termination of their apprenticeship a gratuity varying from 300 to 500 francs, as an equivalent for their labour. The three Imperial Agricultural Colleges at Grignon, Grand Jouan, and La Saulaie (the latter is to be transferred to Montpellier)—count 143 pupils, who defray about two-thirds of their expense, and whose yearly cost is about on a par with that of the cavalry and artillery schools. No change has been made in the 14 Reformatory schools—where agricultural forms, the basis of the system. The grant to the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce has been reduced by 40,000 francs, owing to suppressions, while 40,000 francs are claimed for experimental drainage. There are seven chief and four sub-agricultural inspectors. The depot stations, and other means for improving the breed of horses, is allowed nearly four millions per year; as a contrast, suppressions are voted to the following—Theatre 2, fine arts 2, and labour 2. The State should establish depots for bulls as it has done for horses, and that the army, composed of the pick of the bone and sinew of the nation, should be employed in tending the water lands, instead of leading an idle life in the barracks.

It seems that the experimental batch of Illawarra butter sent to London did well. Notwithstanding its arrival there at a time when butter was plentiful, it made a profit, and thereby encouraged the enterprise. If this be so, shippers have a great advantage. They will be able to buy the butter when it is cheapest at this end, and send it to meet the highest market in London. If this time the market is at 2d. per lb., it would, if well timed, make 2d. or 3d. profit. But too much care cannot be paid to its preparation and packing. Some of that which went spoiled by the way. It gave in to the heat of the hold. In future either this heat must be moderated by scientific packing, or a cool berth must be sought for. We do not apprehend a great trade in this direction; but it is very possible that the market may be generally benefited by the occasional influence of this distant market. We have heard nothing lately respecting the success of consignment to New Zealand.

Facts, when well authenticated, are worth a world of talk, and are far more convincing. There is amongst the great majority of the settlers in this and the adjoining colonies a great indisposition to MANURE land. We have seen manure lying unemployed and wasting even in the neighbourhood of land obviously requiring restoration. The notion seems to prevail that virgin soil never can be worn out, and that as the land of a new colony must be virgin, and New South Wales is a new colony, the land cannot be exhausted. It is not sufficient to say that this proposition is entirely in its predicament, or to conclude that it is required to show that the crop extracts nourishment which is not returned except artificially; that while it is returned crops may be withdrawn year after year without diminishment, but that for want of such restoration the crop produced scarcely does more than yield its own seed. We print some very interesting particulars with respect to experiments that have been made in England recently with Top-dressings—that is, restoratives applied to the crop while growing. These restoratives are applied to them, and it may be as well to state that the value depends upon what the several elements of these root-feeding stuffs will make in the market. Thus ammonia, phosphorus, and potash are to be bought in the market at per pound, and therefore the value of guano and superphosphates, and other fertilisers compounded of them, is easily ascertained. It must, however, be remembered that it is only under certain circumstances that it answers the purpose of the farmer to buy guano or superphosphate and apply it to his crops. It is only to certain crops, in certain quantities, to certain soils, and at certain times of the year that guano, for instance, can be profitably applied. The chemist may value it at 10s. per cwt.; but it may not be worth this to the farmer unless he applies it under the proper conditions. It may be applied in excessive quantities, or to the wrong crops. Nitrogenous manures may be applied to roots; phosphoric to cereal crops, and in consequence of this misalliance, the farmer may find his expectations disappointed. His expensiveness of nitrogen or ammonia, whether of guano or sewage, or of phosphorus, whether of bone-dust or of sewage, will not necessarily create a pennyworth of additional fertility in the soil on which it is cast. An old and respected authority says on this subject, "In skillful hands manure may be made to do great things, but it is quite as possible that the ignorant may throw it away, or do great injury by means of it. A plant is a living thing, which must be kept in health by other conditions, as well as by the mere presence in fitting forms of the material to be taken up, or it will not produce a crop at all." It is very clear to all persons who have made themselves acquainted with the action of manure, that "how, when, and where" it is to be applied are quite as essential questions to be put and answered, as the "what" in reference to the material to be applied.

The following summary of the results obtained near Cirencester, from the use of a top dressing of nitrate of soda on wheat, is a fair specimen of the information contained in the paper cited.

The effects of nitrate of soda in increasing the yield per acre upon four farms in this neighbourhood are given in the accompanying table. The figures indicate the amount of increase per 100 lbs. of nitrate used.

Experiments With dressings per acre equal to 84 lbs. 168 lbs. 336 lbs.

Earl Bathurst, 178 226 292
The R. Agt. College, 178 226 292
Mr. W. Smith, 178 226 292
Mr. B. Ruck, 178 226 292

Average of 2 plots, 168 lbs. of 12,235 lbs. of 1,239 lbs.
The average increase upon 100 lbs. of nitrate of soda was 235 lbs., or 3.4 bushels of 62 lbs. each. Even the present low price of 5s. per bushel, this is equal to a money return of 10s. while the expenditure, at 6s. per cwt. of the fertilizer used, was 14s. 3d. The profit, therefore, at a time when wheat is low, and nitrate of soda somewhat expensive, is equal to rather more than 20 per cent. on the outlay, and this in grain alone. The addition of superphosphate to nitrate of soda is a top-dressing for wheat was, in three series out of four, unremunerative, but in the fourth series it was largely increased. Three sets of experiments out of four gave results decidedly in favour of applying the mixture used (superphosphate and nitrate of soda) in spring rather than in winter. The effect of the heavier dressings of nitrate of soda, according to the above table, was more evident than in the case of the smaller applications.

The two National Agricultural Societies of England and Scotland now undertake to examine any candidates who may appear for their AGRICULTURAL DIPLOMAS. Every candidate must satisfy the examiners in the bookkeeping, and also in one of the two following subjects—land surveying and mechanics as

applied to agriculture. In order to be placed in the first class, candidates must satisfy the examiners in both the above subjects. Any candidate may offer himself for examination in one or more of the following subjects, viz., botany, geology, or anatomy. Any knowledge which he may show of these subjects will be counted to his credit in the general classification, provided that he shall have fulfilled the foregoing conditions, and provided that the knowledge of these subjects does not fall below the standard fixed as a minimum in each of these optional subjects. Each successful candidate obtaining a first-class certificate thereby becomes a life member of the society, and there is a prize list besides amounting to £120. Thus the Royal Agricultural Society of England are preparing to interpret that clause in their charter which binds them to promote the education of the farmer.

CRIMINAL SENTENCES.

(From the Times, April 4.)

LORD PENANCE moved yesterday for a return of the sentences on criminals which have been remitted or varied by the Home Secretary during the last three years, and he took the opportunity of making a speech which will be read with interest. We believe there is hardly any matter of public administration which is looked upon with so much uneasiness and concern as the revision of sentences, or, rather, the re-trial of convicts, by the Home Secretary. In what we have to say we disclaim any desire to single out Mr. Bruce for special disapprobation. His recent remission of the capital punishment has been commented on with some severity, and perhaps, may have suggested the motion of Lord Penance; but we are not prepared to say that his are unjustifiable. There is certainly not one of them for which a precedent cannot be found in the administration of former Home Secretaries. Mr. Bruce is not the first who has commuted the sentence of a man who has taken life in the madness of intoxication; and as for infanticide, it is well known that in these cases the punishment of death may be looked upon as practically abolished. It is with Home Secretaries in general that we have to deal, and it is of the greatest importance to inquire whether any change can be effected which will give the nation greater confidence in the supreme tribunal which now decides on the fate of criminals.

The speech of Lord Penance expresses a feeling that is almost universal. It is with the very gravest suspicion that the proceedings after each trial for murder are watched, and the result often produces something like indignation. Murder is the offence which most attracts the notice of the public, and probably of the Home Secretary also. The terribly diverse sentences which are pronounced for minor offences by different judges, ranging from so many calendar months of hard labour to so many years of penal servitude for crimes hardly distinguishable from each other, are almost unnoticed. But with a capital conviction the Home Office is instantly busied. The machinery of deputation and remonstrance is at once put in action. The trial, which one may be excused for looking upon as final and decisive, is but the prelude to another inquiry. The prisoner who has been first committed by a magistrate, then put on his trial by the majority of the Grand Jury, then convicted by a different jury, and then left for execution by the Judge, who has perhaps declared his full approval of the verdict, is practically tried again before the Home Secretary. We say "tried again," because in many cases the question is not whether there are extenuating circumstances in the crime which should reduce the sentence to penal servitude, but whether the jury have arrived at a correct decision, and the prisoner ought to receive any punishment at all. Suppose the case to be one of the latter description, and consider the task that is thrown on the Home Secretary, and how impossible it is that, even if he decide rightly, the decision should give satisfaction to the public. As Lord Penance observed, it is as necessary in matters of justice that people should feel that justice is done as that justice should, in fact, be done, but if the Home Secretary were a Solomon or a Daniel the world would doubt the possibility of his being always in the right. The murderer has been convicted in open Court; the jury have heard the witnesses and seen their demeanour; the Judge has given them his suggestions, and generally indicated to them his own views; the prisoner's counsel has said all that he can say; and the Judge, after taking into consideration all the circumstances, has pronounced his verdict. What is the course in the trial before the mysterious Court above? All is *exparte*—indeed the prisoner might almost find it convenient to keep back his doubtful witnesses until the time when they could be confronted by a skillful cross-examiner has gone by. As soon as he is convicted his friends and his attorney go to work and get up a second case for his defence, with all sorts of testimony which did not appear on the trial. Medical evidence is always forthcoming in abundance on such occasions. People who have known the prisoner all his life, and must have been close at hand from the beginning, now make their appearance to prove all that is desirable. The evidence is almost exclusively documentary. This or that person makes an affidavit, carefully prepared by the prisoner's attorney, and the Home Office is overwhelmed with this kind of evidence, which there is reason to believe is looked upon as equally valuable with that adduced at the trial. Some of these cases involve the most complicated and difficult inquiries. Take such instances as those of Palmer and Smethurst. In the former the most strenuous efforts were made to obtain a reversal of the verdict, and they might have been successful had he not been tried before Lord Campbell, Baron Alderson, and Mr. Justice Creswell, three of the strongest Judges on the Bench, who declared their assent to the verdict. Sir Cornwall Lewis pardoned Smethurst, on his own judgment, after taking it, as he said, the opinion of an eminent medical man. He was at least more logical than the Irish Government in the case of Kirwan, who was convicted in December, 1852, of murdering his wife at Ireland's Eye, in Dublin Bay, and whose sentence was commuted to transportation for life, on the ground that his guilt was insufficiently proved.

The cases, in which the propriety of the verdict is impugned, are no doubt the most important on which the Home Secretary has to decide, but those in which a commutation of sentence is demanded on the ground of extenuating circumstances require a keener judgment, and a nicety of moral tact which are not always to be found even in the Cabinet Minister. Here the Home Office has to deal with the irrepressible benevolence of the country. As Lord Penance observes, it is a curious feature of human nature that before a prisoner is convicted the sympathy is entirely with the victim, but as soon as he is convicted it passes over to the prisoner. If the convict happens to be of the upper classes, the attempt to influence the Home Office is backed by numerous supporters, and if, as is sometimes the case, he belongs to one particular sect, the exertions are still more urgent. Memorials are sent round in the place where he lived, and people of all sorts are asked to join in praying a remission of the sentence. We fear there can be no doubt that commutations of sentence are often due to these efforts, and that a very obscure and common-place murderer suffers, whereas a man in whose position or case there is something to excite interest has a good chance of escaping the last penalty.

The remedy suggested by Lord Penance is substantially the same as has been proposed on former occasions; it is, indeed, formed the subject of a bill brought, some years ago, into the House of Commons. Lord Penance would construct a tribunal to assist the Home Secretary, to be composed of the Common Law Judges or members of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, or those who have held high judicial posts, and the Home Secretary might also be a member of it. In short, it would be a Court of Criminal Appeal, with the function of investigating facts as well as determining law, and empowered to set aside the verdict or order a new trial. The method of its procedure, as suggested by Lord Penance, would be something new in our jurisprudence. "It should," he says, "not be tied down to the strict rules of legal evidence, for, in an inquiry whether the verdict of the jury ought to stand, no rational means of information ought to be excluded. It should, therefore, be at liberty to receive evidence not strictly legal, and it should have power to order a fresh trial, to annul the sentence or to vary it, subject to such rules as might be laid down." This proposal is enough to startle an honest Englishman who thinks that our judicial procedure is the perfection of reason. We would entreat Lord Penance to consider what would be the effect of one criminal tribunal deciding only upon "legal evidence," and another above it deciding upon "all evidence whatever." How long would the great Palladium of the common law, the Law of Evidence, be preserved after the supreme Criminal Court had set it at naught? Into this sacred code there have been tremendous breaches in our time, and Lord Penance's new Court would probably give it a final blow. What would be the authority of the ordinary Court which excludes the evidence of the prisoner's wife and the prisoner himself, and all hearsay whatever, when the final decision lay with a higher Court which based its judgment on all these?

Yet where the justice or the verdict is called in question, as in Smethurst's case, some such tribunal is, we think, necessary. The Home Secretary should at least have the power of remitting the matter to the Judges, and empowering them to hear fresh evidence, if they thought fit. But the great majority of cases are not of this kind. The question in them is whether the murder is so atrocious that the sentence of the law ought to be carried out. Here, as we have said, the nicest discrimination is necessary, and the most able Ministers will fail in pleasing everybody. It has been recommended that there should be degrees in murder, the first or gravest of which should alone be punishable with death. We do not believe that would meet the difficulty. The question as to the expediency of inflicting capital punishment in each case cannot be solved by establishing categorical distinctions of this kind. The real question in each case is, in fact, whether the moral sense of the public will approve the execution, and this depends on circumstances that vary indefinitely. Age, sex, character, have to be taken into consideration; a pathetic incident modifies the judgment in one direction, a touch which shows remorselessness or treachery moves it in the other. Here the machinery of an appeal Court would do but little; the real appeal must always be to the moral judgment, we may almost say to the heart, of the Home Secretary, and no new judicial machinery will ever supply the want of an able and discreet man in this important office.

THE GAMING-TABLE.

(From the Pall Mall Gazette.)

Few subjects lead themselves to dramatic treatment like the gaming-table. You have the tragic rubbing shoulders with the comic, the solemn blending with the ludicrous, the serious of a subtle and absorbing passion working in various natures, hurrying all its victims alike towards the same inevitable goal; the story of human folly pushed to insanity, the commentary on the hackneyed line of Dryden, "great wits are sure to madness near allied." For gaming has great name in plenty inscribed on its rolls; and until vice becomes less frank, and fashion was driven to compromise with morality, half the world indulged the taste that all the world is at heart disposed to. The history of gaming is the private history of European celebrities. There was a time when over the Channel especially, princes and potentates, churchmen, statesmen, and swordsmen indiscriminately, distracted themselves with it, until life was turned topsy-turvy, and politics, religion, and war—all were accustomed to regard as graver duties—became the distractions of their leisure hours. Gaming was so interwoven with their existence that Mr. Steinmetz might have filled even the two weighty volumes he presents us with, made each page of them valuable in its way, and yet scarcely laid himself open to the charge of wandering from his subject. As it is, and with his form of treatment, the volumes would gain greatly by compression, although they naturally contain much of most interesting and amusing. They contain crude fragments of naked history, arranged on no very intelligible system; a congeries of episodes and anecdotes, thrown down very much at random, instead of being tessellated upon a harmonious background. As a collector the author has been indefatigable, and has ranged widely for his materials through authorities of very different character. He has plied the scissors freely among periodicals and papers dating from half a century back to the present day. Of course, these are the very sources from which to draw the fugitive facts that give life and tone to a work like this, and Mr. Steinmetz deserves great credit for the scrupulous honesty with which he acknowledges his obligations to the uttermost line. But assimilation and selection of some sort were absolutely necessary to make a pleasant reading; and for digression, even the circumstance that he has borrowed it from our own columns cannot influence an impression that a description of the joyous entry of the King of Prussia into Hamburg in 1869 holds by too slight a thread to this subject to be worth reproducing in 1870 in a work that aspires to be permanent. The stories are numerous, and of all sorts, good, bad, and indifferent. It is no fault of Mr. Steinmetz, although it unavoidably detracts from the interest of his book, that most of the best of them, and those told of gamblers of historical fame, are familiar to us already. We have heard so much of the brilliant sinners of the beginning of the century, of Fox and Selwyn, and the heroes of White and Watier's and the Cocoa Tree, and yet no history of English gaming would be complete unless they engrossed the lion's share of it. But why should Mr. Steinmetz inflict upon us at full length and second-hand a very much

more than apocryphal story from Mr. Harrison Ainsworth's "Tower of London," or condense whole pages of Mr. Sala, much more discursive than descriptive, after the manner of that volatile artist? Surely a writer who volunteers a standard contribution to the literature of gaming ought to do his moralising for himself, and not snatch the preacher's mantle from the shoulders of travellers hurrying the round of the German Kursaal. But if Mr. Steinmetz were borrowing, and from a book that professes to treat in special of French and English gaming, why give such relative prominence to our more business-like votaries of the vice over the spiritual players among our neighbours? Why overlook the piquant story of Grammont getting a party under arms to enforce payment of his winnings in case the loser should prove recalcitrant? [And why not go to Brantome and Saint Simon? And, above all, why not draw on the stores of the amusing *vauxien* Casanova? The historian must not be squeamish as to where he goes for his facts, and the memoirs of the scandalous Chevalier are unique as sketches of the gaming table of his day, from the Palais Royal to the Place de Mars. To have done with fault-picking, we may remark, that while Mr. Steinmetz seems fairly accurate in general, occasionally he shows unmistakably that he has made no close personal study of his subject. He writes from books rather than men. We should not, perhaps, insist on the historian of gaming pushing his literary enthusiasm so far as to run the gaming gamut personally, from the first flutter of excitement at laying down his maiden stake to the verge of despair and suicide when he had lost his all and blasted his fortune.

It is delicate work treading so near the edge, and our author might topple over and be lost to us. But we do say he ought to give us his own observations on the demerit of Baden and Homburg players, when the French and German railways offer every facility for reaching their boards of green. We should rather listen to his own impressions on the subject than to the very old experiences of Mrs. Trollope, not even *rechauffe*, or more recent lucubrations from the flying pens of artists of the daily press. The grossest blunder we detect is in the opening sentence of the pages on Aix-la-Chapelle: "The gaming at Aix-la-Chapelle is equally desperate and destructive." Is it a Rip van Winkle waking up to write of a former age? Does Mr. Steinmetz not know that Charlemagne is dead and buried in the Cathedral, that the city is in Prussia, and that gaming has long been strictly prohibited throughout the Prussian dominion? In his chapters on suicides, his latest instance dates from some forty years back, although, unless German rumour lies loudly, he might easily have brought the annual register down to a recent date in scarcely broken series. Two notorious ones, at least, we can vouch for personally.

The merit of a book like this is that it shows us how much our generation has to be grateful for; how salutary and serviceable laws may be that interfere with the extreme theory of the liberty of the subject, protect us from ruin, and each other. The Acts that struck at gambling were doubtless viewed by habitual gamblers much as those levelled at the dangerous classes are welcomed by professional criminals nowadays—that is to say, with a heartfelt outbreak of constitutional indignation. Yet here, at least, legislation has made us better than our fathers, and richer too. We have our "plunging" on the turf, and our playing on the stock exchange; we hear occasional whispers of extravagant sums dropped at whist in select circles, and from time to time the police storm a tavern parlour or a shabby alley, and drag to light the secrets of the frowzy prison-house. But think of the days when our aristocracy and governing classes made it a point of honour to dip their patrimonies, and, as a matter of course, put themselves in *austrera's* shackles before starting on their walk through life; when the public men who handled Treasury funds and secret service money were habitually embarrassed to meet their debts of honour; when they had practically *carte blanche* for a pension list, to which they might transfer beggared relations, so that the British taxpayer pensioned the victims of the hazard table; when the Government courier had to seek the Prime Minister of England among the hells at Newmarket, and the leader of the Opposition left the gaming room, where he had passed a night and day, to speak on a vital question and vindicate a policy. In those days not merely the ownership of private estates, but the fortunes of Europe might be staked at White's or Brooks's, the state of a statesman's temper might decide a question of peace or war. If you sought a man "in society" you knew exactly where to find him—you sought in his favourite haunt in St. James's-street or Pall-mall, amid a sea of cards swelling over the table, or at a shabby alley, and drag to light the secrets of the frowzy prison-house. But think of the days when our aristocracy and governing classes made it a point of honour to dip their patrimonies, and, as a matter of course, put themselves in *austrera's* shackles before starting on their walk through life; when the public men who handled Treasury funds and secret service money were habitually embarrassed to meet their debts of honour; when they had practically *carte blanche* for a pension list, to which they might transfer beggared relations, so that the British taxpayer pensioned the victims of the hazard table; when the Government courier had to seek the Prime Minister of England among the hells at Newmarket, and the leader of the Opposition left the gaming room, where he had passed a night and day, to speak on a vital question and vindicate a policy. In those days not merely the ownership of private estates, but the fortunes of Europe might be staked at White's or Brooks's, the state of a statesman's temper might decide a question of peace or war. If you sought a man "in society" you knew exactly where to find him—you sought in his favourite haunt in St. James's-street or Pall-mall, amid a sea of cards swelling over the table, or at a shabby alley, and drag to light the secrets of the frowzy prison-house.

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The freshest parts of the book are perhaps the chapters on America and the living American celebrities who rivalled on the speculative weaknesses and excitement-loving temperaments of their countrymen. John Morrissey, member of Congress and ex-prizefighter, is not unfamiliar to us in England here as the Vanderbilt of play. From the bar of a public-house he has raised himself by honest industry to the foremost place in the esteem of his fellow-citizens. Mr. Morrissey is emphatically a smart man, but, for anything we hear of him, not a whit less respectable than Fisk and Gould, and the lieutenants of the Erie ring. Mr. Steinmetz tells us that, not content with his gambling operations in New York, he has made a summer resort of Saratoga, consisting of an immense hotel, ball-rooms, and gambling-rooms, and is said to have a profit of two millions of dollars during the season. He is mentioned as one of those who pay the most immense tax. We have little doubt that the volume of the profits flowing into Mr. Morrissey's pockets is the Mississippi to the Rhine compared to those that fall to the share of individual members of our European firms, Blanc, Benazet, and Co. Our American cousins share our tastes for games of hazard, and they can indulge them constitutionally. With the long distances they travel some for dollars, foster a habit which makes "good times" of it for two millions of who takes advantage of them. In a country where the beautifully simple game of "fly-loose" is an honoured institution, there is no reason

why the Napoleon of hells should not aspire to senatorial honours. Mr. Steinmetz concludes with an exposition of the secrets of card sharpening, an allusion to turf betting, and a chapter on cock-fighting; and, with judicious skipping, a great deal of pleasant desultory reading may be found in his book.

THE LENOX LIBRARY, NEW YORK.

(From the Architectural Review and American Journalist.)

No city of its size and importance in the world is so liberally supplied with reading facilities as New York. The late Mr. John Jacob Astor bequeathed the means for establishing a public library, but so judiciously was the bequest carried out that a few book worms and *connoisseurs* of letters were alone benefited. The hours of admission are from 9 a.m. till 5 p.m., the interval being a sealed volume to the business public, employed at the premises. Moreover, the collection is limited chiefly to remembrance for the work-manship of the bindings. In short, with all its carving and gilding, it is exclusive in the extreme, and unworthy the comprehensive and liberal title of a "public library." The Mercantile Library, Clinton Hall, is no more than an ordinary subscription institution we commonly find in our minor cities, and certainly does not merit the name of a public library. There is no other. What a deplorable want for a population of a million to bear with!

But, time and progress will produce desirable reforms, and so the Empire City is about to see the unclouded light of literature at last, in an institution of fitting importance.

Mr. James Lenox, a citizen of New York, who has for many years been collecting rare and most valuable books as well as incunabula, and other private library choicest works of art within his reach, has resolved to meet the want alluded to in the most munificent way.

The New York Tribune thus speaks of it:— "A new public library is to be founded in this city upon a scale commensurate with the magnitude of the intellectual wants of the largest city in the United States. The bill, introduced into the Senate at Albany on Wednesday, incorporating the Lenox Library, which is to be a free gift to the city by Mr. James Lenox, of the highest average of the most recent reports, is said to convey to trustees a block of land somewhere between Seventy-second and Seventy-sixth streets, opposite the Park, as a site for the building, and to give \$50,000 dollars, or any larger sum that may be needed, to erect it. In addition to this, it will, it is said, transfer to the trustees his entire collection of statuary, paintings, and books as a beginning for the library, and he declares that no further sums of money will be wanted, but that he has demanded to make it the finest library in the country."

"Mr. Lenox has been known for many years as a liberal and most intelligent collector of priceless treasures, gathered from the richest storehouses of Europe, and all his rarities of American bibliography, so to many years guarded by him in his private library, are now to be transferred to a library which shall belong to the people. It would be a great advantage to the city, and a most generous gift as this which Mr. Lenox intends to make of himself, it is, perhaps, of even greater value as an example to other men of influence, and as likely to lead to future endowments for its own extension."

The Free Press thus speaks of it:— "The construction on Seventh-street, at a cost of 1,000,000 dollars—another benefaction of Mr. Lenox—furnishes a proof of the comprehensive philanthropy of the man, and a thoroughness in which he aims in his charitable enterprises."

PRINTERS AND PARADOXES.—A printer is the most curious being living. He makes a good coin, and not worth a cent; have small caps, and have neither wife nor children. Others may run fast, but he gets swifter by setting fast. He may be making conversations without knowing it, and may be without offending, and be telling the truth; while others cannot stand when they set, he can set standing, and do both at the same time; have to use far, and yet no dewdrops, and be the best of all his life, and never see a pie, much less eat it, during his life; be a human being and a rat at the same time; may pass a great deal and not make a favour; may die shouting, and be the best of all his life; may cannon, gun, or pistol; he may move the world, and that moves the world, and be as far from moving the globe as a hog under a mole; spread a net, and be a housewife; he may lay his form on a bed, and be obliged to sleep on the floor; he may use a dagger without shedding blood, and from the earth he may handle hell; he may give a rolling disposition, and yet never desire to travel; he may say a sheep's head and not be deformed; never without a case, and yet know nothing of law or physic; be always correcting and be growing worse every day; have embraces without having the police authorities around him; have his frame locked up, and at the same time be free from gaol, watch-house, or other confinement; his office may have a hell in it, and he may be in place after all; he may be obliged to the devil, and be a Christian of the best kind; what is stranger still, be honest or dishonest, rich or poor, drunk or sober, industrious or lazy, he always stands by his word; he may be a good man, and Bow-street April 21st, George Dyer, Hillfort-street, Ilington, appeared before Mr. Vaughan, in surrender to his bail, to answer a charge of wilfully murdering one George Wilson, by striking him down with a pickaxe while working in his garden at the corner of the Lodon dock diggings, Victoria, Australia. The prisoner, who was defended by Mr. Wright, solicitor, of Great Portland-street, had delivered himself to the police at the beginning of the present year, on his own confession, stating at the time that the deed had preyed upon his mind, and he could not rest. He had since been continually remanded, while communication was made with the police authorities at Melbourne. Mr. Superintendent Thompson, E. division, attended, and handed Mr. Vaughan some information which had been forwarded by mail post from the Commissioner of Police at Melbourne, to Colonel Henderson, of the Metropolitan Police, Scotland-yard, and which had arrived on Monday evening. Mr. Vaughan, after reading the papers, said it appeared from the statement made therein that a murder was supposed to have been perpetrated at the very time of which the prisoner had spoken, and a reward of £100 was offered for the apprehension of the murderer. The remains of the body had been discovered in a water-hole near the Lodon dock diggings. There were 16 cuts upon the skull and left side of the face was smashed. A P. T. K. had also been discovered. From the condition of the body it was presumed it had been put in a sack and thrown into the water-hole. It had remained in water for five months at the least. The report of the detectives at Melbourne showed that a person named Dyer was seen to be working at some mine in the neighbourhood of Melbourne, and the latter was suddenly found to be missing. In fact, all the incidents of the communication agreed with the statements in the confession made by the prisoner. It was proposed to send an officer over to this country with a warrant; the prisoner could then be apprehended and conveyed back to Victoria to take his trial. Mr. Wright said there were some discrepancies with reference to the locality and some of the statements. Mr. Vaughan said that the contents of the papers forwarded were perfectly explicit, and he should feel justified in again remanding the prisoner, and upon this occasion should refuse to accept bail.

THE RANGE OF MODERN ARTILLERY.—In the report of the Whitworth and Armstrong Committee, p. 17, we find the following:— "Another appears, from the table of ranges, combined with the elevation of the probable rectangles, that the Whitworth gun made good practice up to a range of 3000 yards, which is about 2000 yards in excess of the ranges attained by either of the Armstrong guns at the same elevation of 21 degrees." Some idea of the distance

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, SYDNEY

Latitude $33^{\circ} 51' 41''$. Longitude $10^{\circ} 4' 49''$.
Magnetic variation $10^{\circ} 1' 55''$ East. 1884.

[illegible]

Temperature of sea water, 3 feet below the surface, at
 Nelson, at 9 a.m., _____.
 Total rainfall from January 1st to June 25th—40.39 inches.
 Annual average of the preceding seven years—49.61 inches.

COMPARISON OF STATIONS.
 CIVIL ENGINEERING, JUNE 25TH, 1870.

Set above 100 ft.	At 9 A.M.	For 24 h. pre- vious 9 A.M.
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[illegible]

ALBUQUERQUE	419	29-55A	43 0	93	S.W.	4 0	—	35-1	41-7
THURMAN	333	47 661	—	—	W.S.W.	9 0	10	—	—

ASTRONOMICAL MEMORANDUM FOR 27TH JUNE, 1870,

Object.	Rise.	Set.	Phase of the Moon.
h. m.	h. m.		
7.7	4.57		
5.52 a.m.	3.52 p.m.		First quarter 7
5.25 a.m.	3.59 p.m.		Full Moon 11
5.45 a.m.	2.27 p.m.		Last quarter 15
6.22 a.m.	2.27 p.m.		New Moon 21

SUN 5.33 a.m. 5.13 p.m.
 MOON 5.22 a.m. 5.17 p.m. Moon's age, 27.7 d.
 VENUS 4.12 p.m. 6.16 a.m.
 High water at Fort Denison, a.m. 7h. 2m.; p.m. 7h. 20m.
 GEORGE E. SMALLEY, Government Astronomer.

The Sydney Morning Herald

MONDAY, JUNE 27, 1870

ALTHOUGH the different colonies are a great deal influenced by the example they mutually set to each other, there have not been many instances of their distinctly investigating and reporting on each other's affairs. This, however, was the course recently pursued by So-

and laws. Although that colony had the most conservative attitude to the law under which it had alienated more land, and consequently shed more freeholders in proportion to its numbers than any neighbouring colony had done, and under which it secured for itself the title of the granary of the Empire.

Australia, still, in spite of this success, had visibly come when that law had been altered. The Government found it undersold by its neighbours. Many of the country people, especially Germans, were moving off into Victoria and New South Wales, attracted by the prospect of cheap land.

nd. In the face of such competition
ind upset price could no longer be main-
ained, and concession was inevitable. Be-
eciding, however, on the form the
aw should take, the Government
atched Mr. GOYDER, its Surveyor-General,
ictoria, with instructions to examine into
upport upon the working of the Land Ac-

that colony. Mr. GOYDER had, in previous years, made himself somewhat famous by heavy rentals he had levied on the South Australian squatters when valuing their runs, and he might be safely trusted, in studying the question, not to look at it through the spectacles of squatters. We could certainly wish his instructions had required him to

his colony also, as we might have obtained from an "intelligent foreigner" a criticism upon the operation of our law. We can, however, only conjecture what would have been his opinions from the tenor of his remarks on Victorian Legislation.

Victoria possesses more than 55,000,000 acres. Of this it alienated under the old law more than 4,000,000. This was a very fair quantity in proportion to the population, if it been well distributed. But nearly half was held by squatters, and much of it in large estates. Thus, in the Belfast district sixteen individuals held 86,000 acres.

in the Geelong district twenty-two per cent. of the land was held 228,000 acres. Most of the land was near the four great shipping ports, about a third being in the inland districts. Whether the defects were inherent in the system, or were due to special local causes, were the fault of the Administration, or the fault of the landowners, but the number

ORDER does not say; but the popular feeling condemned the auction system as giving too great an advantage to the capitalist, this feeling was embodied in the first clause made in the law. The Land Act of 1845 provided that country lands might, after survey, be selected on cash payment of one pound acre, and that the selector might enjoy

Additional privilege of renting adjoining land at a shilling an acre, with the right of subsequent purchase, the total area being limited to one square mile. This Act operated from the 1st of November, 1860, to the 18th of July, 1862. Its effect was considerably to stimulate the alienation of land. More than 800,000 acres were worked off somewhat more

half being nominally taken up by selected 150,000 under the purchasing scheme. Mr. GOYDER reports, however, that the effect of it was to harass and oppress the squatters, but at the same time to force many practical improvements in the land, and to stimulate fencing, and in many respects to improve the country.

...to better management; but it stimulated also a great deal of jobbery, as the squatters found their licenses virtually cancelled if their occupation endangered unless they complied with the spirit of the Act. But it brought down the squatters' share in the land from forty-eight to forty per cent.

satisfactory, a further Act was passed in 1862, which made the terms of purchase easier to the agriculturist. He was now to buy one-half of his land at a pound an acre, and to take the other half on an eight years' lease at half a crown an acre, the repayment being by instalments of the purchase money. This additional stimulus to the purchase

his additional stimulus to the purchase of land pressed still more hardly on squatters, especially on those who had improved and enclosed their runs, or who in the endeavour still to preserve themselves from being embarrassed themselves by large purchases, their greater pressure on them "led to a more systematic and extensive evasion of the law."

While the Act was in operation the quantity of alienated was 1,187,250 acres. It was probably have been very considerably more.

100

[illegible]

is entitled to protection, whilst the European is punished.' The situation of the Fijis seems to resemble that of Spain. A master is wanted to govern himself. The British Consul who represents the power of the United States and America rule the land amongst themselves at present, and on the whole, they are getting on peacefully. We occasionally hear of rowdiness, but the reports that we should be taken with great alarm. They are often promulgated to mislead the public view, and are intended to influence the shaping of events. It may be means the case that the natives transact their business with one another on the trigger, or that peaceable people are thought to fear from a lot of worthless scoundrels, whose do-nothingism in the colonies has gravitated to do-nothingism in Fiji, and who are there drinking themselves to death. If rowdies there are, they are to be found amongst the Europeans. The natives are ignorant and uneducated.

The sway of their King appears to be beneficent. His chiefs are fully submissive to his will, and the people to theirs. The policy advised by the native Government is entirely favourable to the interests of the Europeans and the natives. The Government has been purchased and the native labour required by the King upon system. The Government makes request for fifty men, for instance, who are provided if they are to be had. The King, with a knowledge of the state of the

tion on each island, places his commands in chiefs' hands, and the labourers are prodded. The planter pays a 20s. fee per man a King, who lends him the men for months, on condition that he clothes them, and pays them the sum of £1 at the close of their engagement. The labourers go back from the island till about one hour's recess is allowed during the day. These at least are the regular hours of labour; but the slaves are expected to do whatever may be required of them. The Saturday half-day is now an institution in Fiji. A cer- tain number of plantation hands are told off to look after the food for the gang, while the rest is allowed to do what they please. Sun- day is observed as a day of rest. The labourers as these labourers is to be

gathering. They are found to give considerable amount of work if well supplied with wild yam and water. Their want of matter of clothing are quite as inexhaustible as labour has to bind a breadth of cloth around his middle when he wakes up in the morn. and he is equipped for the day. It appears to be little trouble with these natives. They are good workmen and obedient. Their spirit is soon brought down. The investigator the employers' complaints, and the "cat" administered by one of his men's thrashers, is said to bring about a temporary state of feeling in a short space of time. We are not informed what justice is done for the aggrieved native against his master. It is to be hoped that his person as well protected as those of his fellow natives.

reference to a false impression that the natives respecting the disinclination of the natives to work, it may be desirable to the natives that the traditional influences of the natives are not adverse to manual toil, and this is not the reason why so much of the labour needed by the planters has to be imported from other parts. The fact is that the natives are sought elsewhere because they are not to be found in sufficient quantity in the Fijis. This question should be borne in mind when the labour question there is under consideration.

It is, although, a very primitive state of affairs, and it is to be attended at present with dissatisfaction. But a change must soon come. The results will be that the native population will decrease, and the white population will increase, and numbers—and white and black—will increase, and there will come a supply of gas, which will be of a great value to the natives.

men of government that will be in accordance with a more highly organised asphyxiation of society.

A portion of the community, however, has a sense of uneasiness. The European nation feels unprotected—not unprotected as the Fijians, but from the swooping Eagles of civilised world. It matters much to the island, with money invested in the land, that nothing should occur to jeopardise his life. He naturally desires to preserve the relations on the permanence of which he has based his calculations, and he feels that if the capital of the Spanish monarchy, the capital might shiver his fortunes. This impression, the British nation has appealed to throw their Regis over the board; but in vain. Some talk has been going on of invading the United States Government.

to embrace the Fijis in their colonial policy; but the population is not sufficiently advanced for this step. Victoria is far too far represented there to warrant the supposition that these islands will become politically attached to that infant colony. At present South Wales is more associated with New Zealand commercially than Victoria, and we must do all in our power to improve these relations. We learn, however, from our Melbourne telegram of Saturday, that the Melbourne Convention of protectionists in the colonies of the sister colony, have been discussing the question of protection to Fiji. We have resolved to petition the QUEEN of England to accept it.

It is led to expect that the productive capacity of the Fijis will be fully represented at the approaching Exhibition. Some of the

merchants trading there have undertaken extensive regular demonstration of the use of the soil. The staple product is cotton, which grows luxuriantly, and yields a highly remunerative return to the planter. The plantations are nearly all on the island Tavuni, where the plantations are a singularly rich and deep volcanic soil, which is to be secured for the planter by a small cash advance. The falling of timber on unexplored land is not needed, and the felling is done by the cheap native labour. The growth of the cotton crops, two of which are harvested in a twelvemonth. The crops now mainly in the hands of Europeans, are transferred from them, or from the native planters, to the Government. Fine samples of the produce have come to this market from thence, and will be sold by the Government.

have here made 2s. 9d. per lb. Parcels of to have some more

not yet been attempted; but of a variety of wild cane-berries that it may be produced and lemons grow wild with it, and many of the spices of it, for instance, as the nutmeg, &c. The soil produces arrow-wood, and doubtless many that have as yet been discovered these islands come to the highway of the route from America, we may expect to see an extension of their resources as shall be a valuable appendage as well as to give them protection and growth of capital, in return

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passenger station will always be required the use of the facilities typically found in it. It is not, however, the same pretensions to architectural magnificence to the University and the colleges, and the ecclesiastical edifices, which are contiguous to the Railway and the best Public school buildings in the city. The new Exhibition Building, in Park Street, is the best specimen of the kind. We have, in the new passenger station, for the first time, provided adequate accommodation in which centres at the station; and the design is simple and unobtrusive, and appropriate to the occasion, and ornamented with a construction with red brick, the chimneys, and other parts of the structure being constructed of red iron forming a kind of relief or back to the wall and drawings will be of the best construction will be of the best construction, and being supported by handsome iron paneling between. The main walls

[illegible][illegible]

tees by 5 feet, etc. Every station has drainage and ventilation, as well as the roof, etc., to the building. The fittings of substantial character and the whole is of a purely constructive nature, the design to avoid needless embellishment. The structures under cover, which will be two stories high, will be 200 feet long, each 216 feet long, making a total of 432 feet—each will give a convenient accommodation of about 1000—tabularns carriage docks will be placed at every convenience will be provided for unloading of horses and baggage for the omnibus horses, which form us and at the same time the most desirable present arrangements will be made. The wall will be built of brick and carriage drive having a gentle ascent of the station will give access to the building; and for the convenience of the eastern portion of the city an entrance-street will be made.

THE RIPLEY RANGERS.—On Saturday afternoon, August 20, the Ripleys rang the bells of their church.

Hydney Battalion, while shooting for a running butte. The match, in which he was firing at 800 yards at the time these men were practicing at 700 yards. Mr. against the fence, waiting for his turn to shoot. He fired first from the upper end of the fleshy part of the thigh, and after with a downward direction. Surgeons Dansey were present in attendance, attracted at a distance of about 1000 yards. The sufferer was removed to the hospital and his condition is progressing favourably.

Letter dated our Malabar states that Alexander Mr. Hamlin and Eugene Witty, the Walkersmoona Lake, and attacked the house of Han-han. The remainder of the district, an old and strong village, was found a large potato plantation, which was very poor of provisions. It is expected will join the Mission, and will seat in the Legislative Council. Mr. M. appointed Under-secretary for the Malabar has been notified to the District Diocesan Synod. Information has been received from the schooner Ruby, of

A Goulburn correspondent informs Layton offers to conclude a match for fifty pigeons, with one ounce shot.

The match to be shot in Goulburn.

Forwarded on has been slain by District Court. Mr. A. F. Spiller, the victor of £60 against Mr. Brown, the two birds, in an article.

THE MAGNET.—The Gunnedah correspondent writes, on the 21st June, states Kooroo are again in flood. The Namoi is also flooded and the Murrumbidgee.

ray. It was, however, brought to the
peddler. It would have been a great
stain-holder in the neighbourhood
if it had been so. The
sturdy, and looks as if it were about
the

OUR MELBOURNE LETTER.

[illegible]

WITHOUT ANY RESERVE
BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES.

WEATHERBOARD COTTAGE and LARGE BLOCK
of LAND, BAY STREET, CHINA.

FIVE ALLOTMENTS of LAND at PETERSBURGH.

RICHARDSON and WRENCH have received instructions from the Mortgagees to sell by public auction, at the Rooms, Pitt-street, on FRIDAY, 1st July, at 11 o'clock,
LOT 1.—All that piece of land, 1 rood and 31 perches

having a frontage of 66 feet to May-street, with a depth of about 300 feet, extending to and fronting Blackwattle Creek, held on lease for 99 years, from June, 1948, subject to an annual rent of \$10. On the land there is a WEATHERBOARD COTTAGE, containing verandah, 6 rooms, also detached kitchen, servant's room, shed, &c.

LOT 2.—FIVE ALLOTMENTS, VILLAGE of PETERSHAM, being lots 11 to 15, as per plan fronting JOHN and COOK STREETS, and

Both these lots are known as formerly belonging to the late Mr. N. Wechs, and must positively be sold on the above date, to close the mortgage account.
Plans on view at the Rooms.
Terms at sale.

By Order of the Executor of the Estate of the late Thomas Smith, Esq.

WESTERN LEA ESTATE, PYRMONT,
including **WESTERN LEA HOUSE** and Grounds
Pyrmont Bay Road and Marston street, and **BUILD-
ING ALLOTMENTS** fronting Pyrmont, Edwards
and Marston streets, also the Pyrmont Bay Road, over-
looking the harbour, close to the Bridge.

RICHARDSON and **WRENCH** have re-
ceived instructions to sell by public auction

at 11 o'clock,
The whole of the well-known valuable City Estate of
the late Thomas Smith, Esq., situate in the principal
central streets of Fremont, close to the Bridge.
LOT 1—WESTERN LEA HOUSE AND GROUNDS
FREMONT BAY ROAD AND MARIAN
STREET.
The HOUSE is a commodious family residence, most
substantially built of stone, with wide

The GROUNDS contain an area of about 1 rood 20 perches, and have a frontage of 68 feet to Marine-avenue and 58 feet to the Pyramont Bay Road. The land is laid out as garden, lawn, and large yard; and the city residence which is finished in good style and fitted with every family convenience, occupies a favourable position and commands a fine uninterrupted view of the harbour.

WESTERN LEA BUILDING ALLOTMENTS.

LOTS 2 to 5, have each 20 feet frontage to Pyrmont street, with a depth of about 106 feet, extending to 20 feet lane at the rear.

LOTS 6 to 11, each about 20 feet frontage to the Pyrmont Bay Road, with a depth of about 146 feet, extending to a lane 20 feet wide at the rear.

LOT 12.—A valuable corner allotment, having 20 feet frontage to the Pyrmont Bay Road and 148 feet to Edward-street.

On completion of that great city improvement the
Semi-circular Quay on the reclaimed land at the head of
Darling Harbour (which it is proposed to commence from
the foot of Liverpool-street), the whole of Pyramont pro-
perty will be considerably enhanced in value, and rendered

The Western Life Estate occupies the most valuable position in this portion of the city, overlooking the harbor close to the foot of Market-street and the wharves. The sale, by order of the executor of the late Mr. Smith is promptly to carry out the trusts of the will. Title unquestionable. Full particulars can be obtained on application to Messrs. ALLEN, ALLEN, BOWDEN, and ALLEN, Solicitors, Elizabeth-street.
Plan on view at the Rooms.

WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST RESERVE.
 BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEE.
 TO CAPITALISTS AND OTHERS,
 GEORGE-STREET NORTH.
 STORES AND OTHER PREMISES, with LARGE

BLOCK OF LAND, containing an area of nearly **HALF-AN-ACRE**, extending from George-street, on the south side of the property formerly belonging to the late John G. Christ, Esq. (with a depth of about 250 feet), to New George-street.

TITLE DEEDS can be inspected, and full particulars obtained on application to Messrs. **FITZGERALDS and SON, Solicitors, King-street.**

RICHARDSON and WRENCH have received instructions from the MORTGAGEE to sell by public auction, at the Rooms, Pitt-street, on **FRIDAY, 1st JULY, at 11 o'clock,** All the following frontages of about 5 **FERT TO GEORGE-STREET NORTH,** with a depth of about 160 feet extending to New George street, to which it has a frontage of about 23 feet at the corner of which are stores, dwelling, and other premises.

BLIGH DISTRICT.

FOR ABSOLUTE SALE.
To close a partnership account.
That compact highly-improved station, called
COOWGA,
comprising blocks 16 and 17 on the east side of the
BOGAN RIVER, embracing about 45,000 acres
NEARLY ALL ENCLOSED BY SUBSTANTIAL

by
ES-
—

FENCING—of rich fattening pasturage.

The **HOMESTEAD** and other improvements are very complete, and equal to work a large number of sheep.

With the station will be sold
6870 SHEEP, more or less.

* * Working horses, stores, a few head of cattle, and sundry other belongings to be taken by valuation in the

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

RICHARDSON and WRENCH have received instructions from the Proprietors, in consequence of the expiry of their partnership, to sell by public auction, at the Rooms, Pitt-street, Sydney, on **FRIDAY, the 2nd July next.**

TERMS.—One-third cash, residue by promissory notes at 1 and 2 years' date, with bank discount added, and secured upon the property by mortgage in the usual way.

Plan on view at the Rooms.

WEDNESDAY 20th Jan.

P O S I T I V E S A L E
The well-known favourite new from paddle-steamer
MAY QUEEN,
will be sold by public auction, at Mort's Rooms,
street, at 11 o'clock, on
WEDNESDAY, 29th June.
RAYNES, TREEVE, and CO.

In the Supreme Court of New South Wales,
Sheriff's Office, Sydney, 11th June.
THOMAS O'BRIEN v. W. J. COLES.
THIS DAY, the 27th day of June in-
stant, at noon, at Camb's Commercial Hotel,
King-street, Sydney, unless this writ be previously satisfied,
the **SHERIFF** will cause to be sold by public auction,

And to all that piece or parcel of land, situate at Balmait, in the district of Fethersham, county of Cumberland, and colony of New South Wales, being lots No. 14 and 17 on a plan which was exhibited at a sale of land on the 29 September, 1845, commencing at the south-west corner of lot 12, and bounded on the north by lot 12, being a line bearing easterly 56 feet; on the east by land, lately belonging to James Martin, bearing southerly 46 feet; on

TO BOAT CLUBS, AMATEURS, AND OTHERS.
 See SATURDAY morning's Western Boat Club for particulars.

for William Hickey, to row against Green, at 12 noon, **THIS DAY**, June 27, at Truscott's Wharf, Belmora.

JAMES MAYHEW, Bailie.

FUNERALS.

THE FRIENDS OF MR. EDWIN WILSON are respectfully invited to attend the funeral of his late wife, Mrs. EDWIN WILSON, who died on the 25th inst., at her late residence, No. 13, Johnston-street, at half-past 2 o'clock, on MONDAY, the 27th inst., at 2 o'clock, THIS DAY.

THE FRIENDS OF MR. AND MRS. LOUIS SILVER are invited to attend the funeral of their late son, Mr. LOUIS SILVER, who died on the 25th inst., at his late residence, No. 13, Johnston-street, at half-past 2 o'clock, on MONDAY, the 27th inst., at 2 o'clock, THIS DAY.

THE FRIENDS OF THE LATE MR. THOMAS KAY are invited to attend his funeral, to be held at his late residence, No. 13, Johnston-street, at half-past 2 o'clock, on MONDAY, the 27th inst., at 2 o'clock, THIS DAY.

LOYAL FOUNTAIN OF REFUGEE LODGE, No. 3889, M.U.—The Officers and Brethren of the above, together with the various Lodges, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral of the late Brother THOMAS KAY, to be held at the Hall, Sumner-street, on TUESDAY, June 28th, at 8 o'clock a.m. JAMES HAWKINS, W.G. THOMAS WILSON, Secretary.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES.

General Post Office, Sydney, 22nd June, 1870.
It is hereby notified for public notice, that mails will be made up for dispatch per CITY OF MELBOURNE, THURSDAY, the 30th instant, closing at 3 p.m., for transmission to NEW ZEALAND and SAN FRANCISCO; and that the following rates of postage will be applicable, viz.:—
Per UNITED KINGDOM.—Letters 1s. per half-ounce; newspapers 3d. each, and in addition by weight at 2d. per ounce, to be paid by the sender.

Letters 6d. per half-ounce; newspapers 3d. each, and in addition by weight at 2d. per ounce, to be paid by the sender.

For UNITED STATES, all parts of America, and intermediate places.
It is at present uncertain whether any of the above rates will apply to the destination. It is, however, believed in the case of correspondence addressed to the United Kingdom that such will be the case.

DANIEL ROAN.

Department of Lands, Sydney, 21st June, 1870.
APPROACHING LAND SALES.—Public attention is directed to the fact that the following parcels of land are to be sold by public auction, on MONDAY, the 27th inst., at 11 o'clock, at the sale of Crown Lands at the following places, viz.:—

1870.	No. Gazette.	1870.	No. Gazette.
ALBURY.		MAITLAND.	
Friday, 26th July ..	142	Monday, 24th July ..	145
Saturday, 30th July ..	142	Tuesday, 26th July ..	145
ARMIDALE.		Wednesday, 27th July ..	145
Monday, 26th July ..	142	MONMOUTH.	
Tuesday, 26th July ..	142	Monday, 25th July ..	142
BALMAIN.		MURKUMUNDI.	
Monday, 26th July ..	142	Monday, 25th July ..	142
BATHURST.		NOWRA.	
Monday, 26th July ..	142	Monday, 25th July ..	142
BERKLEY.		PORT MACQUARIE.	
Monday, 25th July ..	142	Monday, 25th July ..	145
BOOBOWA.		RAYMOND TERRACE.	
Monday, 25th July ..	142	Monday, 25th July ..	145
BURRUM.		SUNSHINE.	
Monday, 25th July ..	142	Monday, 25th July ..	145
CABRILLIS.		Friday, 29th July ..	145
Monday, 26th July ..	142	Saturday, 30th July ..	145
COONABARRABAN.		SYDNEY.	
Saturday, 30th July ..	142	Saturday, 29th July ..	145
COONAMBLE.		STROOD.	
Monday, 26th July ..	142	Monday, 26th July ..	142
Tuesday, 26th July ..	142	TUMUT.	
CUDDEN.		Monday, 26th July ..	142
Monday, 26th July ..	142	WAGGA WAGGA.	
DENILQUIN.		Monday, 25th July ..	142
Monday, 26th July ..	142	Tuesday, 26th July ..	142
GOULBURN.		WALCHA.	
Monday, 26th July ..	142	Monday, 27th July ..	142
GUNDAGAI.		WEST KEMPEEY.	
Monday, 26th July ..	142	Monday, 25th July ..	142
GUNNEDAH.		YARRA.	
Monday, 26th July ..	142	Monday, 26th July ..	142
Tuesday, 26th July ..	142	YONG.	
HAY.		Monday, 26th July ..	142